

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of synthesizing the sound of a musical instrument, including the steps of:-
 - obtaining samples of the sound of said instrument,
 - analysing the harmonics of said samples of said sound,
 - selecting harmonics of said sampled sound according to prescribed characteristics of the ~~envelop~~ envelope of said harmonics for synthesizing harmonics of the synthesized sound,
 - grouping harmonics of said sampled sound of similar ~~envelop~~ envelope characteristics and obtaining temporal characteristics of the group of harmonics from constituting harmonics of the same group,
 - synthesizing a plurality of synthesized harmonics of the synthesized sound, wherein at least some of the synthesized harmonics are synthesised from one of the ~~envelops~~ envelopes of the harmonics of a group and conditioned by the temporal characteristics of the constituting harmonics of that group.
2. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein said prescribed characteristics for selecting a harmonic including selecting a harmonic with more salient variation in amplitude over-time.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of selected harmonics of said sampled sound ~~being~~ are group added to form a synthesized harmonic of the synthesized sound.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 3, wherein said synthesized harmonic obtained by group addition ~~being~~ are scaled up or down for generating other harmonics of said synthesized sound.
5. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said synthesized sound ~~being~~ is synthesized from a plurality of characteristic harmonics, a plurality of said characteristic harmonics having a substantially similar envelope.
6. (Original) A method of claim 5, wherein the number of said plurality of characteristic harmonics does not exceed 4.
7. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 5, wherein at least one of said characteristic harmonics ~~being~~ is synthesized from a plurality of harmonics of said samples of said sound.
8. (Currently Amended) A sound synthesized from ~~any one of the preceding methods, characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.

9. (Original) A sound according to claim 8, wherein the synthesized sound is reminiscent of the sound of a string instrument.
10. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 2, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.
11. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 3, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.
12. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 4, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.
13. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 5, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.
14. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 6, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.

15. (New) A sound synthesized from claim 7, wherein a plurality of the harmonics of the synthesized sound have substantially the same variation in the amplitude envelope.